

REMARKS**Summary of the Office Action**

Claims 1-24 stand rejected under U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Reber (US, 6,138,151) in view of Bhattacharjya et al. (US, 6,456,393).

Summary of Response to the Office Action

Claims 1-24 are cancelled without prejudice or disclaimer and new claims 25-35 are added. Accordingly, claims 25-35 are presently pending for consideration.

Amendment filed with RCE under 37 C.F.R. §1.114 on December 27, 2006

Applicant respectfully submits that Amendment filed with RCE on December 27, 2006 was signed by a patent practitioner whose registration number was inactive. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully files the Amendment signed by a registered practitioner whose registration number is active for entry with RCE to be consistent with the practice of the USPTO. Applicant submits that no change has been made in this Amendment from the one that was filed on December 27, 2006.

All Claims Define Allowable Subject Matter

Claims 1-24 stand rejected under U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Reber (US, 6,138,151) in view of Bhattacharjya et al. (US, 6,456,393). Claims 1-24 are cancelled without prejudice or disclaimer. Accordingly, the rejection of claims 1-24 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) are now moot. Further, Applicant has added new claims 25-35. Applicant respectfully submits that new claims 25-35 define over the prior art of record. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests consideration and allowance of newly added claims 25-35.

CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing remarks, Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration of this application, withdrawal of all rejections, and the timely allowance of all pending claims. Should the Examiner feel that there are any issues outstanding after consideration of this response, the Examiner is invited to contact Applicant's undersigned representative to expedite prosecution.

If there are any other fees due in connection with the filing of this response, please charge the fees to our Deposit Account No. 50-0310. If a fee is required for an extension of time under 37 C.R.R. § 1.136 not accounted for above, such an extension is requested and the fee should also be charged to our Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,

MORGAN, LEWIS & BOCKIUS LLP

By: Mary Jane Boswell
Mary Jane Boswell
Reg. 33,652

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Customer No. 09629

MORGAN, LEWIS & BOCKIUS LLP

1111 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W.

Washington, D.C. 20004

Telephone: (202) 739-3000

Facsimile: (202) 739-3001